Cindy B. Harding, Chair Thomas E. Boldin Carl V. Homan Ralph Wheland



Joseph Homan Thomas Songer III Ronald J. Hoover Dennis E. Buffington Diana Griffith, Coordinator

CENTRE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 27, 2021

Present: C. Harding; T. Boldin; R. Wheland; J. Homan; D. Buffington

Staff: Diana Griffith (Centre County Planning Office)

Stacy Mann (Centre County Planning Office)
Mark Higgins (Centre County Commissioner)

Public: None

The meeting was called to order by Chair Harding at 7:33 p.m. and was held in the BlueJeans virtual meeting platform. The meeting was recorded for future reference.

Introductions

Ms. Griffith introduced Mr. Wheland as the newest member of the Centre County Agricultural Land Preservation Board.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. J. Homan and seconded by Mr. Wheland, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Agricultural Land Preservation Coordinators Report

Pauline E. Cooper Estate Farm

Ms. Griffith said the Cooper Farm will be on the State Board Agenda for June 17, 2021.

Frederick Moore Resignation from the ALPB

Ms. Griffith informed the board that she received Mr. Moore's resignation letter dated April 19, 2021.

ASA Archive: Follow-up from Municipalities

Municipalities have been contacting Ms. Griffith with ASA updates. The State informed Ms. Griffith that they require ASA updates to come directly from the respective municipalities.

Farm Inspections

The County and Federal Farm Inspection Reports are all completed and have been submitted to the State.

State Board Allocation

The Board of Commissioners certified \$89,548 in county funds.

 State Funds
 \$367,205

 Match Funds
 \$121,942

 Redistributed Funds
 \$16,504

 State Total
 \$505,651

 State and County Totals
 \$595,199

PA Bureau of Farmland Preservation 2020 Annual Report

The 2020 Annual Report that was forwarded to the Board is a valuable reference about the PACE program.

Communications

Matt Knaub, a student reporter from the Centre County Report, interviewed Ms. Griffith and Ms. Harding remotely about the PACE program. To their knowledge, the interview has not aired. Mr. Knaub had advised he would send them a link when it does.

Larry and Suzanne Harpster Farm Survey

Ms. Griffith shared the survey bids for the Harpster Farm.

Gregory Shufran	\$1,350
Hawbaker Engineering	\$5,900
PennCore Consulting	\$8,900
The EADS Group	\$9,250
Michael Baker International	\$21,500

On a motion by Mr. Buffington and seconded by Mr. Boldin, the board recommended Gregory Shufran for the Larry and Suzanne Harpster Survey based on his past work and as the lowest bidder. Motion carried.

Items for the Good of the Order

Ms. Griffith reminded the Board about the second round of Farm Vitality Planning Grants for those farmers that may be interested in applying.

The Board of Commissioners voted to have the County Staff return from remote status to full time at the Willowbank office Monday, June 28, 2021. The building will reopen to the public Tuesday, July 6, 2021.

The board was asked to be thinking of a potential successor to Fred Moore.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for June 24, 2021 in Room 146 of the Willowbank Office Building beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Buffington and seconded by Mr. Wheland, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by,

Stacy Mann Recording Secretary